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words and the great variety of forms which we find here demonstrates that the Book of Ruth is a most valuable part of the Scriptures for study by the beginner in the Hebrew language. Probably no other portion of the Bible of equal length is so well adapted to furnish the student with a *working* vocabulary, and with an accurate knowledge of grammatical forms.

GENERAL NOTES.

Scenery of Palestine. — One who has always lived in the Lebanon mountains, in the coast towns, or in the great cities such as Damascus and Jerusalem, can not realize the wealth of natural beauty of which Palestine is possessed. Even this oppressed and poverty-stricken country has fertile fields and broad plains, rich soil free from stones, beautiful groves, and far-reaching landscapes, such as would be praised if found even in the fairest lands of the globe. The Sea of Galilee is more like a work of art than like a natural formation. Its beauty is developed by study like that of Niagara, or like that of the lakes of Switzerland or Scotland. The silent hills about it clad with verdure, the shadows moving over its surface, the numerous flocks on plain and mountain-side, the water-fowl sporting in bay and inlet, men and animals loitering on the shore, here and there in the fields a ploughman or a shepherd, and, most inspiring of all, Hermon down in the north, overlooking the whole, form elements sufficient to enrich any landscape; but in this case we have sacred associations which throw a special charm over the whole.—*From East of the Jordan.*

A Hymn to Mitra. [Rig-Veda, III. 59. 7.]

To man comes Mitra down in friendly converse,
Mitra it was who fixed the earth and heaven;
Unslumbering mankind he watches over,
To Mitra, then, your full libations pour.

Oh, may the man forever more be blessed
Who thee, Aditya, serves by ancient law!
Sheltered by thee, no death him touch, no sadness,
No power oppress him, neither far nor near.

From sickness free, rejoicing in our strength
And our stout limbs upon the round of earth;
The ordinance of Aditya duly following:
So stand we ever in the guard of Mitra.

Most dear is our Mitra, high in heaven,
Born for our gracious king, and widely ruling.
Oh, stand we ever in his holy favor
Enjoying high and blessed happiness.